

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 6, 2012

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 25, 2012

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 4, 2012

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 9, 2011

SENATE BILL

No. 878

Introduced by Senator DeSaulnier

(Coauthor: Assembly Member Bonnie Lowenthal)

February 18, 2011

An act relating to transportation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 878, as amended, DeSaulnier. California Transportation Commission.

Existing law creates the California Transportation Commission and imposes various duties on the commission, including, but not limited to, assisting the Legislature in formulating and evaluating state policies and plans for transportation programs in the state. Under existing law, there is also a Department of Transportation and its duties include, among others, supporting the commission in coordinating and developing, in cooperation with local and regional entities, comprehensive balanced transportation planning and policy for the movement of people and goods within this state. Existing law requires the state transportation improvement program to include a listing of all capital improvement projects that are expected to receive a specified allocation of state transportation funds from the commission. Under existing law, the commission is required to biennially adopt and submit a state transportation improvement program to the Governor and the Legislature.

Existing law creates the High-Speed Rail Authority with specified powers and duties relating to the development and implementation of an intercity high-speed rail system. Existing law, pursuant to the Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st Century, authorizes \$9.95 billion in general obligation bonds for high-speed rail development and other related purposes.

This bill would require the commission to undertake a study to assess the appropriateness of establishing an office of inspector general to ensure that the department, *the authority*, and transportation agencies with projects funded completely or in part from funds in the state transportation improvement program *or state bonds* are operating efficiently, effectively, and in compliance with the state and federal laws governing the performance of transportation agencies. The bill would require the commission to consult with specified federal and state agencies in this regard and would require the commission to prepare a written report regarding the advisability of creating an office of inspector general and to submit it to the Governor and the Legislature by January 31, 2014.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) The California Transportation Commission
- 2 shall undertake a study to assess the appropriateness of establishing
- 3 an office of inspector general within state government to ensure
- 4 the Department of Transportation, *the High-Speed Rail Authority*,
- 5 and transportation agencies with projects funded completely or in
- 6 part from funds in the state transportation improvement program
- 7 *or state bonds* are operating efficiently, effectively, and in
- 8 compliance with federal and state laws governing the performance
- 9 of transportation agencies.
- 10 (b) In carrying out this study, the commission shall review the
- 11 federal Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. ~~App. 3~~ *App. 3*),
- 12 the experience of other states that have an office of inspector
- 13 general, and the experience of local transportation agencies that
- 14 have an office of inspector general, and shall consult with the
- 15 Bureau of State Audits, the Inspector General of the United States
- 16 Department of Transportation, and other individuals and

1 organizations that may have relevant information related to an
2 office of inspector general.

3 (c) The commission shall prepare a written report regarding the
4 advisability of creating an office of inspector general and shall
5 submit the written report to the Governor and the Legislature by
6 January 31, 2014.

7 (d) A report to the Legislature pursuant to this section shall be
8 submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government
9 Code.